

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, August 1, 1985

Published Since 1877

## One-way road leads to Vermont

By Tim Nicholas

Macedonia Baptist Church in Plainfield, Vt., needed help, so Petal-Harvey Baptist Church in Petal, Miss., sent them a pastor and a chunk of its congregation. And it's a one-way mission trip — they plan to stay.

In March of this year, Petal Harvey pastor David Young thought perhaps he could do some short term mission work in Vermont for a couple of weeks. He and his wife Gail had taken Foreign Mission Board appointment to Austria, and had resigned after a year of language school. But missions had never left their hearts. Young had seen an ad in the *Baptist Record* back in 1978 telling of the need for bivocational workers in Vermont. He recalled that ad and when he became pastor at Petal-Harvey, he organized a sister church-type relationship with the Green Mountain Baptist Association which includes the state of Vermont and some Haitian churches in Canada.

"I can't explain it," says Young, who felt a "tremendous inner pressure" to become involved in volunteer missions. He relieved the pressure by telling himself that he could do some short term work in Vermont.

Contact with Vermont missionary Merwyn Borders brought an invitation to visit. "See the pastors, take some slides, and in the process you'll see how you can help," Borders told Young.

In two days, David and Gail and their teenage son Bradley, covered over 600 miles with Borders. They saw the ministries and needs across the state and "by the time we got home we were having mind explosions," said Young.

"We saw the mountains, the customs, then we realized what Austria was all about," says Gail. David said when the Von Trapp family came to America from Austria, they were told Vermont was most like their home. The Youngs agree.

So, quickly the idea of short term work gave way to a permanent move — or at least a move of a year or more. Young said for both him and Gail, the idea of going to Vermont was "an invigorating, shaking, stirring, experience . . . and scary."

As soon as they determined they had received a call from the Lord — they knew because they couldn't stop thinking or talking about it — they made the call public.

Church members responded positively and several began thinking about going along as lay ministers in



The missions volunteers from Petal Harvey Church from left are Gail Young, Daren and Andrea Carley, Jean Smith (David Smith was out of town when the photo was taken), Jan and Billy Ray Ervin, and David Young.

the area. Church financial secretary, Andrea Carley, read Young's church newsletter article explaining his plans to go to Vermont and asked her husband Daren if he'd ever thought about mission work? Daren, an assemblyman for an air conditioning company, said, yes, he had thought of one to two week mission trips.

Soon Andrea told Daren they weren't the only ones thinking about Vermont. "I think we had about \$35 in our name," recalls Daren who, with Andrea began meeting with two other couples who had expressed interest in moving to Vermont.

David and Jean Smith had felt a special calling for two or three years and "we were at the point where we were ready to launch out on faith," says Jean. "The Lord will either close the door or say, this is it."

And Billy Ray and Jan Ervin began to feel as if God were speaking to them about Vermont. Said Billy Ray, a color stripper for *USA Today*, "I said, Lord, if Vermont and missions is what you want for me, show me. It never dawned on me he'd work as fast as he did." Billy Ray said everywhere he looked he was reminded of missions, from Bible reading to a cover of *Contempo* magazine that dealt with "Moving."

The three couples went forward in the church for a public commitment to missions. Not all have gone, but all feel the Lord is working in their lives.

The Smiths, who have a two year old daughter, and the Carleys who have three children, have joined the Youngs. The Ervins, with three children, still

feel called, but they haven't pulled up stakes as yet. Billy Ray says he won't set a deadline for a move. "I say, Lord, if you want me to go up there and witness to people who haven't heard, I've got to get myself right inside and feel like I'm accomplishing something in my life," says Billy Ray.

Before the actual move, the four couples spent lots of time talking and praying together. "When the tension of the decision gets high," says Gail Young, "we go to Burger King, let the kids play and we talk about Vermont." She adds, "We've spotted a Burger King in Vermont already."

All have had church leadership experience, from teaching Sunday School or Church Training, to short term missions, to being deacon or pianist. Gail Young is a keyboard instructor. David Smith has sung in a music group, Lincoln County, that made the charts.

After they made their decisions public, the four couples said they felt tired — physically, mentally, spiritually weak. Some family members and friends were not supportive, although most either were very supportive or told them "I wish I could do that."

Petal-Harvey church had a commissioning service for the families, laying on hands, holding a reception, praying, and taking up an offering for them. "They made it clear that we were representing the church," said Young.

So, after months of agonizing and mental and spiritual preparation, the Youngs, the Smiths, and the Carleys

pulled into Vermont two weeks ago. The Youngs' house in Petal was sold, as was the Carleys' mobile home and the Smiths' home had been rented.

David Young is now pastor of Macedonia Church with a guarantee from the Home Mission Board of only \$100 a week salary (they have four children, including one just starting Mississippi College). And David Smith and Daren Carley have at least temporary work in construction, jobs found for them by Bill Emory, a Baptist layman who heads Vermont's housing authority.

The tiny church David Young pastors only has about 37 members. They even have a mission of their own in nearby Williamstown. Several members had to co-sign the note, but the church bought the Youngs a pastorium already. And the Carleys and Smiths are living in rented facilities for the moment.

The lay couples may for now stay at the Plainfield church, providing experienced leadership and active witness to the community. They may move on to other communities which could use experienced laypeople. "Warm bodies help out," says Missionary Borders, who, by understatement, calls such a migration of families, "unusual." When he asked David Young if Young could find some people to help him, he meant, "not to come, but help them come. This was missions," he said.

Their first Sunday at Plainfield brought 65 to church, twice the average number. And the arrival of the Carleys and Smiths saw no small

event. Their truck and trailer got stuck in asphalt on the main route into town. In the hour it took to get them unstuck, "nearly everybody stopped by and found out what we were doing there," said Young.

Jan and Billy Ray Ervin are "still on hold," said Young. Billy Ray is waiting for a job to open up. "They are very much here in spirit. The bridge is so strong. They're calling almost every day," said Young.

Merwyn Borders, more than a decade in the area, says the work ahead for the Petal people "doesn't all come up roses." Finding housing, jobs, culture different from what they've been accustomed to will be difficult. "Let them live through a winter in Vermont. It adds another dimension" to what some think of as a "glamour" spot, says Borders.

"You've got to have commitment . . . this is what we've been asking Southern Baptists to do when we speak of Bold Mission Thrust," says Borders.

Before they moved, Jean overheard her six-year-old, Austin tell a friend how lucky he was. He "could build snowmen all summer and won't have to go to school." Perhaps the best comment of all concerning the move was something that Southern Baptists haven't exactly said in promoting Bold Mission Thrust, but which couldn't be better said. Andrea's mother told her, concerning the move, "Well, I didn't birth ya'll to sit around and be knotheads." Sounds a lot like what Jesus was saying when he gave the Great Commission.

### Khadafy urges 'holy war' against Christian faith

KIGALI, Rwanda (EP) — Libyan leader Muammar Khadafy called for a "Holy War" against Christians during a recent visit to this East Central African country. Khadafy, who visited Rwanda May 16-18, urged a Muslim victory over Christianity, claiming the Christian faith was "un-African" and "colonial."

Khadafy declared, "Africa is not Christian. Christians are intruders to Africa. Christians are agents of colonialism. You must wage a Holy War so that Islam may spread in Africa."

A spokesman for Open Doors said, "Khadafy's call for a Holy War against Christians was made despite the fact that only one percent of Rwanda is Muslim. The majority are Christian and the government is headed by devout Roman Catholics. Archbishop Vincent Nsengiyumane even has a seat on the ruling party's Central Committee."

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## Pray for peace — bring youths to Jackson

The approach of the 40th anniversary of the destruction of two Japanese cities by atomic bombs should cause us to give serious consideration to the day of prayer for world peace that has been suggested by the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission for Aug. 4.

It was in August of 1945 that the bombs were released over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, an event that ushered in an entirely new era in the way human beings conduct their affairs on the earth. The time has come when international politics is conducted with the realization that the super powers in the world have the capability of wiping out civilization and with the fear that other nations will soon have nuclear capabilities and with the knowledge that some of those nations have demonstrated a lack of general good will in the world.

A great deal of everything we do is based on our dealings in international politics.

It was hoped that the second world war would establish a peaceful climate throughout the world. It didn't. Because of the availability of nuclear weapons, there have been no more general wars. But we have continued to find ourselves involved in nasty limited wars almost on a continuing basis. And we sit on pins and needles worrying about how to stay out of the ones in which we are not involved. Generally we don't stay out.

Since the end of the second world war we have been at war in Korea and

in Vietnam and have lost American servicemen in Central America and in the Middle East.

Having been involved in that last general war, it is evident that the concept of people who don't know each other and bear no ill will toward each other hiding behind whatever they can find and shooting at each other is not rational. Yet history is based on such occurrences and indeed changes directions with such times.

Of course, one doesn't have to have been involved in a war to know that it is not a sane way of settling differences.

But now we find ourselves the continual adversaries of a nation that could destroy us just as we could destroy them. Perhaps the fact that we could destroy each other is what keeps us from going to war with each other, but the possibilities of accidents in nuclear decisions are extremely frightening.

That leads us to the realization that only the Lord is able to keep all of the senses straight and all of the heads cool and all of the fingers off of the

launch buttons.

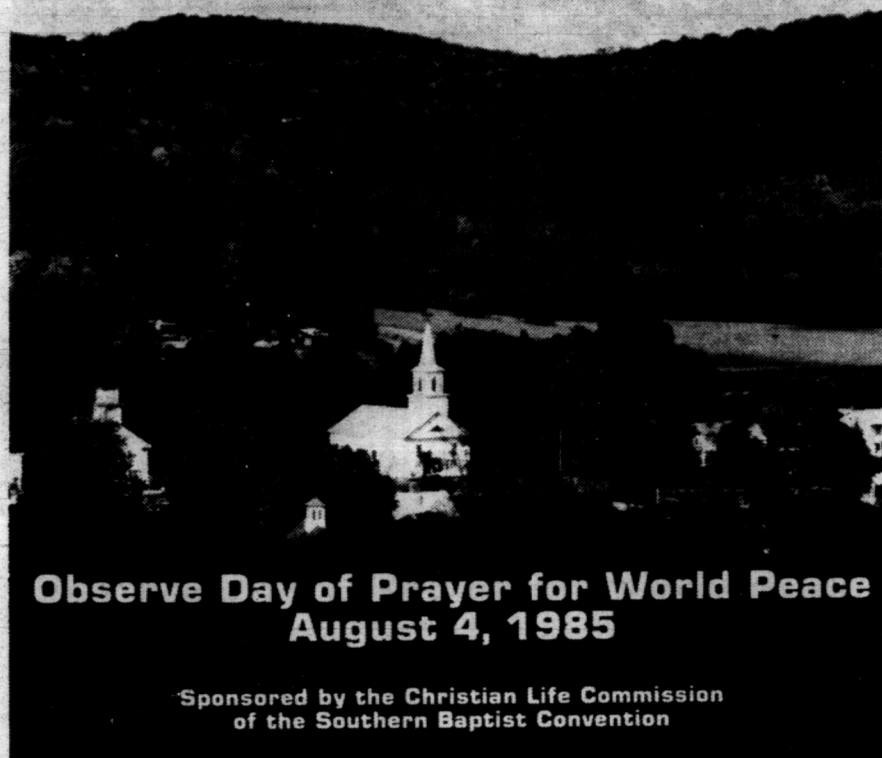
We should pray on Aug. 4 that we will be able to avoid a nuclear confrontation that would be destructive and disastrous. And in addition to that, we should pray that the warring factions in Central America and in the Middle East will find some way of handling their differences without killing each other. Only miracles can prevail in both instances, but then that's what prayer is all about.

Aug. 4 is not the only time when such intercession should prevail, but it is a time when all should be involved in intercessory prayer on a concerted basis.

The concept of war makes us think of our young people, the ones who are called on to be the sacrifices in the event of war. We are going to take the occasion of ministering on a mass basis to Mississippi Baptist young people on Aug. 2. Every year the Mississippi Baptist Youth Night is the largest meeting in attendance that we have. The attendance will run upwards of 10,000 young people from all over the state, and this is our prime

**"Neither shall they  
learn war any more."**

(Isaiah 2:4)



opportunity to speak to them. A fine program has been arranged with former Jackson pastor Brian Harbour as the speaker. Harbour was at Colonial Heights Church in Jackson until he followed Frank Pollard at Shiloh Terrace Church in Dallas when Pollard came to First Church, Jackson. Harbour is now pastor of

First Church, Pensacola, Fla. His message will be worthwhile.

For many of the churches, the trip will be long and difficult; but the inspiration and the decisions that will be made will make it worthwhile.

There should be 10,000 Mississippi Baptist young people in Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson that night.

### Guest opinion . . .

## Is the Lord pleased?

By Allen O. Webb

**Editor's Note:** This is one of scores of manuscripts that have come into the Baptist Record office relating at least in part to circumstances of the Southern Baptist Convention. They could not all be used ahead of the convention, and only those written by Mississippians were used. We want to try to use these additional thoughts of Mississippians that we have on hand, even though the convention is past.

These words are being written at the beautiful Missionary Learning Center near Richmond. This facility was made possible by gifts from individual Baptists across the Convention. No Cooperative Program funds have gone into the building or into the operation. The largest contributions were made by Harwood Cochran, founder of Overnite Trucking, and by the Cecil Day family, founders of Days Inn.

Leila Mae and I are here for a week of orientation in preparation to serve a year in Munich, Germany, while the Kenneth Glenns are on furlough. We are getting more excited by the minute about this opportunity of service.

Among the many auxiliary volunteers, we met the Boyd Jacksons from Enid, Okla., who are going to Yemen. He is 50 years of age and is resigning a pharmacist's position to go overseas. After the graduation of their daughter, they will leave, planning to spend the remainder of their active years in volunteer mission work. This is glorious except that his wife, Karen, will not only be leaving children and

grandchildren but also a mother in ill health who may have both legs amputated. She does not expect to see her mother again while she is alive.

Among the career missionaries we met the Howard Kitchens family. He is a urologist, and Marilyn is a pediatrician. They are leaving lucrative practices in the medical community to be missionaries in Korea.

We also met the Gary Threats from North Carolina. He is finishing his doctorate at Southwestern as he, his wife, Becky, and baby go to Botswana. This brilliant young man said, "The thing that bothers me most is not leaving my home and family but rather seeing our convention in strife. I believe God will take care of us, but it would be so much better if the trouble could be settled."

This strife has caused several of our past and present leaders to threaten to cut gifts through the Cooperative Program if the Convention doesn't vote the way they desire.

Leila Mae and I are not worried about their giving from a personal point of view. Our assignment is only for one year, and we are paying our own living expenses during this time. On the other hand, won't it be tragic if the gifts are cut enough that the volunteers can't go because of a lack of funds? How can this glorify our Lord?

I can't fight Charles Stanley. I think he is a great preacher. The times I have heard him, my heart has been blessed, and I could say "Amen" to all

that he said. On the other hand, I can't fight Russell Dilday. He is a great leader who is dedicated to our Lord and who has a real heart of love. He has the potential of becoming one of the greatest presidents in the history of Southwestern Seminary.

What has happened to Southern Baptists when we are so polarized that it seems that we have to hate one if we love and respect the other? Could anyone say that God is being honored when opposing groups are seeking to elect their candidate for president through the medium of power politics? Why can't people be bussed to the Convention to help strengthen our work instead of divide our people?

I make no claim to greatness. I have never been an officer or speaker at our Pastors' Conference or convention. I cannot even claim to have had outstanding success in all of the churches where I have served for the past 48 years.

With whatever little influence I may have, I want to plead with all those who are past and present leaders to prove themselves to be real people of God. This can be done by a sincere soul-searching, earnest prayer for personal forgiveness, and by urging others who are promoting dissension to seek forgiveness in order that Christ can be enthroned in our midst.

The present type of polarization will lead us to "self-destruction." Note the truths of Galatians 5:15:

"But if you bite and devour one another, take care lest you be consumed by one

another" (NASB).

I sincerely believe that our Lord is being pleased with what is happening at the Southern Baptist Convention Missionary Learning Center this week. It is so great to see the young as well as the middle aged and older ones giving their talents and energies to tell the world about Jesus.

The question all of us need to answer is, "Is the Lord pleased with our attitudes, our motivations, our dedication, and our willingness to give ourselves and substance to help to make certain that the world hears the message of our Lord by 2000 A.D.?"

Allen O. Webb is the retired executive director of missions for Jackson County.

### 43 Baptist pulpits empty in London

LONDON, England — Of 267 churches in the London Baptist Association, 43 are without pastors. Filling pulpits has become a top priority for superintendent Arthur Thompson and the Home Mission of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, which provides grants for struggling congregations.

The association's goal is for every church to have a pastor by 1990 and then to plant still more churches. The most recent church to receive a pastor had only eight members. That pastor had just left another small congregation which became financially independent last year and now is helping support other new churches.

### The Baptist Record

(ISSN-0005-5778)

515 Mississippi Street

P.O. Box 530

Jackson, Miss. 39205

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Subscription \$7.35 a year payable in

advance.

Published weekly except week of July 4 and

Christmas.

Second Class Postage paid at Jackson,

Mississippi.

The Baptist Record is a member of the

Southern Baptist Press Association.

Volume 109

Number 25





## Melody Nowell speaks at Ridgecrest

Melody Nowell, winner of Mississippi Youth Speakers' Tournament, represented Mississippi Baptists at the Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, N.C. She was one of 20 state representatives. Melody is the daughter of Pat Nowell, pastor, Tunica Church, Tunica, and Mrs. Nowell. Robin D. Nichols, left, consultant, Church Training Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, presented the winner's plaque.

## NBC's "Living in Hope" to air Haiti "miracles"

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Southern Baptists' efforts to help the people of Haiti work miracles will be spotlighted on national television when NBC airs "Living in Hope" at 12 p.m., CST, Sunday, August 4.

Edwin Newman will host the hour-long special produced by NBC in association with the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

As Newman describes it, in Haiti, once the richest island in the Caribbean and now the poorest, "to survive is not an accomplishment... to survive is a miracle."

Keith Parks, president of the SBC's Foreign Mission Board, is interviewed on the program, as are a number of Southern Baptist career and volunteer missionaries.

Parks detailed for Newman the Christian motivation that leads Baptists to help and "in the process of sharing food, or teaching them to

read, we share who we are."

"Living in Hope" described as "one of the better documentaries of its kind," features some of the 100 Baptist schools which fight the island's illiteracy rate by offering 14,000 children what education they get and the one balanced meal they have each day.

The camera crew also visits a medical clinic where volunteer doctors and nurses treat 1,776 patients in a week, and interviews construction crews of volunteer Baptist men building churches and schools on the island.

In addition, Newman talks with career missionaries who drill wells to provide drinking water and with agricultural missionaries teaching people how to raise rabbits and pigs and how to reforest their island to better use their farmland.

Air times may vary in different locations.

## Tadlock will direct Virginia campus ministry

John W. Tadlock, a Mississippi native, has been named director of campus ministry for the Virginia Baptist General Board.

Tadlock, who grew up in Harrisville, Miss., went to the position from Clemson University where he had been campus minister for three years.

A graduate of Mississippi College, Tadlock received the master of divinity from New Orleans Seminary. He was Baptist Student Union director at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College at Wesson, and for 14 years was campus minister at Jacksonville State University in Alabama.

## Preschool weekend will feature Sybil Waldrop

Sybil Waldrop will be the featured speaker for the Preschool/Children's Weekend at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, Sept. 7-8.



Waldrop

(Continued on page 11)

The weekend is designed to offer training for all adults involved in work with preschoolers or children in Sunday School.

# The Baptist Record

## Leaders of 21 nations plot global strategy

By Leland Webb

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — Baptist mission leaders from 21 nations ended their first global evangelization strategy consultation vowing not to let their plans for greater cooperation in missions "fizzle out."

They spent two and a half days at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center listening to reports on Baptist mission activities and proposing plans for stepped-up gospel witness worldwide.

Christian researcher David Barrett provided a key term in reporting on a series of declarations by Christian groups over the past century that had called for world evangelization. Each had "fizzled out," he said, because participants failed to carry out concerted action.

"This consultation must not be just a beautiful idea, but the launching pad for the formulation of practical strategies," insisted Rafael Sereno of Columbia.

In one such outgrowth, representatives of Baptists in six Asian nations — South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, Hong Kong, and the Philippines — agreed to explore ways to coordinate their efforts in foreign missions. One plan discussed was formation of a regional body to send out their own missionaries.

Kee Man Han, pastor in South Korea, said Korean Baptist churches and associations have sent missionaries overseas, but there is no convention structure to do so. "Neighboring nations are asking us to send missionaries," he reported, and young people are volunteering, but Korean Baptists are not prepared to train them. He asked the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board to consider sending missionaries to train Koreans to be foreign missionaries.

Participants listened, sometimes in astonishment, to reports of mission efforts by Baptists in other countries. Alexander Montero told of Venezuelan Baptists' 22 home missionaries and their first two foreign missionaries and of projections for hundreds more within 15 years.

When asked how Venezuela can support so many missionaries, Montero explained economic sources have enabled the country's 122 Baptist churches and 9,000 members to provide support. "And we trust we will be able to in the future," he added.

"For almost a century the Baptist churches in Nigeria particularly, and other countries of Africa, have depended on gifts from the Foreign Mission Board through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering," Samuel S. T. Ola Akande, general secretary of the Nigerian Baptist Convention noted.

"We have come to the place where we feel we must fend for ourselves. We cannot continue to say, 'Give me, give me, give me.' We must give ourselves."

Give and take among participants at the consultation, described as a meeting of peers, was brisk and frank.

"It wasn't just a Southern Baptist gathering — it was a global gathering where we could speak freely," said Waldemiro Tymchak, secretary of the Board of World Missions for the Brazilian Baptist Convention.

To keep information circulating and plans moving, the group set up a small organization. They elected R. Keith Parks, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board president, interim chairman and Azariah McKenzie, executive secretary-treasurer of the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship, interim vice-chairman.

"Conveners" chosen from five geographical regions are to share data from the consultation with other Baptists in their areas. They also are to urge election before the end of 1986 of regional chairmen who will become part of a coordinating committee.

Simultaneous translation of proceedings into Chinese, Korean, and Spanish was provided for those not fluent in English. Participants or their

related Baptist organizations paid their transportation and other expenses. The Foreign Mission Board arranged the meeting facilities.

The idea-exchange aspect of the "open agenda" meeting prompted many suggestions with wide-ranging implications:

— Representatives of several European Baptist bodies and of the two Middle East nations present decided to explore a closer missions connection among them.

— Horst Niesen of the European Baptist Mission told of a fresh approach in preparing new missionaries: Their national Baptist co-workers in the country of service provide on-the-field orientation.

— Venezuelan Baptists offered their newly developed plan for Baptist world discipleship.

— Tymchak of Brazil presented a detailed proposal for a continent-wide strategy of Christian witness in South America.

Leland Webb edits *The Commission* magazine for the Foreign Mission Board.

## World Baptist women elect Mexican leader

By Carol Garrett

LOS ANGELES—"We are not in church to play. We should be genuine Christians with a deep everyday experience of life in the hands of the Lord."

This deep conviction was expressed by Mrs. Edna Gutierrez of Mexico, newly elected president of the Baptist World Alliance Women's Department.

Gutierrez was elected by more than 250 delegates, an open session of the Women's Department, held at the First Baptist Church of Los Angeles.

New Zealand's Rena Smith was elected secretary/treasurer. The new officers will serve for five years.

Gutierrez feels very much at home in the worldwide family atmosphere of BWA. Her mother is Mexican, her father Chinese, and her husband Nicaraguan.

"I grew up in a home where we had no boundaries of any kind, racial or cultural. BWA is very much like my own home," she said.

This atmosphere provided Gutierrez with a deep understanding of Women's Department service. "When the Lord gave me that home, that background, those roots, he had a purpose," she said.

Both new leaders have specific ideas and plans for the Women's Department.

"We must open the windows for our



Mrs. Edna Gutierrez of Mexico, left, is the new president of Baptist World Alliance Women's Department. Rena Smith, right, of New Zealand, is secretary/treasurer.

women, to give them a vision of Baptist women around the world," Smith said.

Gutierrez wants to see nominal Christians gain fervor in their service for the Lord. "I'm not so interested in numerical growth, but in spiritual growth," she said.

She does, however, want to help Baptist women in countries around the world find more channels of service, saying there is "tremendous potential" for this type of expansion.

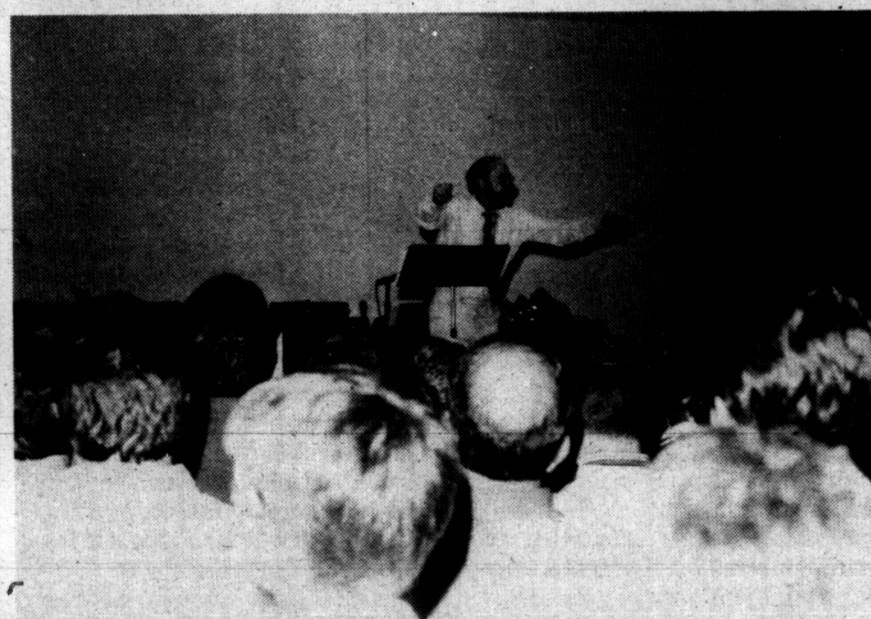
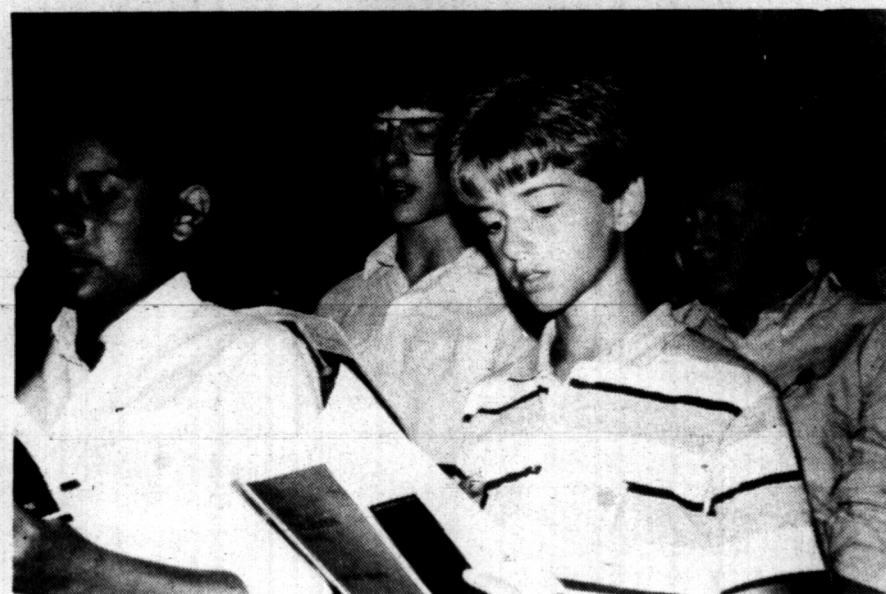
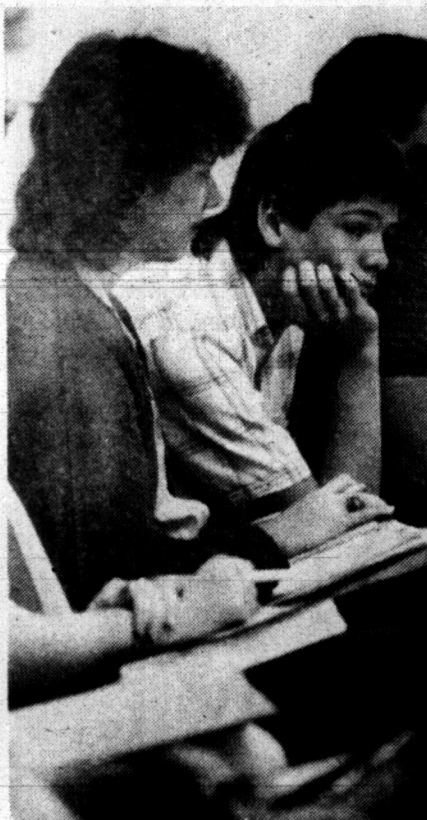
"We are living in a time of crisis all over the world. One of our main purposes should be to strengthen prayer," she added.

Carol Garrett writes for WJMU, SBC.



# Youths sing, ring at Gulfshore

These are scenes from the first of two Youth Music Conferences at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly. Teens from across the state, numbering around 200, learned music theory, band instrumentation, and choral singing, along with handbell work, and Bible study. Camp pastor Joe Ratcliff, formerly of McComb, now pastor of First Church, Many, La., told the youths no matter what condition their lives are in, there is a sinfulness that separates people from God. "You cannot achieve a meaningful existence by yourself," Ratcliff quotes the Preacher in Ecclesiastes. Through Jesus, said Ratcliff, "he will not change the circumstances around you; he will change you."



Joe Ratcliff, camp pastor, talks with Gayle Walls of First Church, Pearl.



Stephanie Meaders of Hickory Church, Hickory, and Lisa Harrelson, First Church, Calhoun City, make friends during a break in Youth Music Conference activities.



# Refugee resettlement office responds to SBC resolution

Thursday, August 1, 1985

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ATLANTA (BP) — The Southern Baptist Immigration and Refugee Service Office has posted a list of immediate needs for refugee sponsors in response to a resolution adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Dallas June 11-13.

SBC messengers adopted the resolution encouraging Southern Baptist participation in sponsorship and church-centered ministries with refugees.

The denomination previously had set a goal of resettling 1,000 refugees during 1985. Last year, Southern Baptists resettled 819 refugees, placing them third among 17 participating denominations in refugee resettlement.

The SBC refugee office now has more than 50 cases of refugees (about 65 people) needing sponsors, said William Rutledge, director of immigration and refugee service for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Coupled with 18 new cases from May were an additional 38 cases from April, carried over because the refugee office was unable to find sponsors, Rutledge said. Eight cases were sponsored during May; another 17 SBC churches were enlisted as back-up sponsors. Still, at least 31 cases were carried over into June, he noted.

Delays in sponsorship in the United States affect refugees throughout the world, Rutledge said. About 2,500 Indochinese refugees arrive in the United States each month, all in need of sponsorship, from a refugee camp

in Bataan, Philippines.

"Those 2,500 are counted on to leave so another 2,500 others can come from refugee camps in Laos and Thailand," he said. "To not pick them up prevents others from leaving Indochinese refugee camps."

That leaves refugees with one of two fates: either they remain overseas in camps, or another agency — with less than the SBC standard of follow-up — picks them up, only to drop them once they arrive in the United States, said Rutledge.

In addition to the already heavy June caseload, Rutledge reported several specific cases in need of sponsors.

If a refugee's family already resides in the United States, they are eligible to come to the U.S. under the family reunification program, he explained. Though the family would provide most if not all the basic living needs for the refugee, the government requires the involvement of a back-up sponsor, added Rutledge.

A Charlotte, N.C., Baptist church sponsored a Cambodian family eight months ago; now the family is self-supporting. They are willing to serve as primary sponsors for four relatives, but do not have room in their home for the new family.

At this time, the Charlotte church is unable to provide housing for the family, so Rutledge is in search of another North Carolina church willing to act as back-up sponsors to provide housing for the family.

A Vietnamese family of five who

has friends in Oklahoma also are in need of sponsors, said Rutledge. So far sponsors from any state have not been found, he said.

Complicating the matter are medical needs, noted Rutledge. The father, who has an uncontagious form of leprosy, will require treatment for about five years, he explained.

The SBC resolution coincided with the 10-year anniversary of the denomination's resettlement of Indochinese refugees, noted Rutledge.

Churches interested in sponsoring these or other cases should write to the Immigration and Refugee Service Office, 1350 Spring Street NW, Atlanta, GA. 30367, or phone 404-873-4041.

## Baptists aim 7,000 tons of grain to save lives in Burkina Faso

BOBO-DIOULASSO, Burkina Faso (BP) — Bill Dean gazed at the old woman's emaciated frame and knew the letter she had written her son was true. She was starving to death.

Four days later she died. Dean and the woman's son, Marcel Sama, who works in Dean's home, had come too late for her, but they had brought enough food to last her family until the next harvest.

Dean and other Southern Baptist missionaries hope to use \$360,000 of Southern Baptist hunger relief funds to prevent many similar deaths in Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta) in coming months. Beginning in early June, they began distribution of 7,000 tons of grain to famine areas in this drought-stricken west African nation.

Already the severity of the situation has prompted the mission to request additional money to distribute 6,000 tons instead of 4,000 tons. By working with Christian and Missionary Alliance churches in famine areas, Dean thinks he can stretch funds even further to distribute 7,000 tons.

Dean, a former Texas dentist, was tapped by fellow missionaries to head up grain distribution because he has not yet been able to set up his dental practice. His experience with Sama's mother brought home to him the urgency of his task.

Sama had received a letter from his mother in Bibiou telling him all their food was gone. She wanted to come to Bobo-Dioulasso to be with him, but was too weak to travel. She pleaded with Sama to come help before his family was left to die.

Dean left with Sama on a Monday morning to take the family food and supplies. As they approached the family's huts, 30 or more children with spindly arms and legs and swollen bellies ran out to greet him.

Sama disappeared into a small hut for a few minutes, then stepped out to tell Dean his mother would like to meet him. As he stepped through the low door into the windowless mud hut, Dean's eyes made out the shape of an old woman who could not have weighed more than 50 pounds, propped against the wall. She was too weak to

hold her head up.

Sama said to Dean, "Momma would like to thank you for coming."

Dean knelt and reached to take her hand, but she couldn't lift it. "Another woman placed her hand into mine, and this dear lady tried to speak with me," said Dean. "Although she could barely breathe and I could not have understood had she spoken, I understood her emotions."

"As I knelt there with her hand in mine, Marcel said, 'Momma wanted to say thank you for bringing me to see her and for bringing food. She said that we can go now,'" Dean related.

After they stepped out, Sama's brother said, "Momma is at peace now. She has gotten to see her son who had been gone for so long. He has brought food so that the family will be able to eat. He brought soap for her. She wants Marcel to go back with you to his family now."

When Dean later asked the significance of the soap, Sama explained his mother wanted to be cleaned properly before she was buried. Four days later she died.

But before she died she told her family to send word to the one who had brought her son to her and food to her family. She wanted him to know she had asked God to bless him.

"In that I am only the messenger and my efforts would not be possible without your concern and support, I am relaying this blessing on to you (Southern Baptists)," said Dean.

## Gilfoy alumni will gather

The Gilfoy School of Nursing alumni reunion will be Saturday, Aug. 3 at the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and the Ramada Inn North in Jackson. For more information call Brenda Castleberry at 968-1000.

## Moon Released

DANBURY, Conn. (EP) — Sun Myung Moon, founder of the Unification Church, was released July 4 from a Federal Prison in Connecticut after serving nearly one year for income-tax evasion.

## Webbs leave next week to church post in Munich

Allen and Leila Mae Webb of Pascagoula will be leaving Aug. 8 for Munich, West Germany, where they will help keep the work going in the international English-speaking Baptist church at Munich, while Kenneth and Beth Glenn, missionaries, are on furlough in Colorado for a year.

The church membership is about 50 percent military people, and the balance includes international students and Americans and other nationalities who are employed in Munich. There are now about 55 resident members, with an average of 50 in Sunday School and 70 in worship service.

Since the congregation meets in a German Baptist Church, they must wait each week until the other congregation has finished with the building. Thus, they have Sunday School at 11:45 a.m. and worship service at 12:45 p.m. Then the Sunday evening service and Thursday evening prayer meeting are in the chapel of the army post.

Webb retired last Dec. 31 as director of missions, Jackson County Association. During the winter months he was interim pastor in a church in North Dakota.


"Leila Mae and I are looking forward to going to Germany," he said, "because we feel that it is God's will



Allen and Leila Mae Webb for us to keep this church going while the Glens are on furlough. We both feel that we must follow God's will in retirement as we did in the previous years.

"During orientation at the Missionary Learning Center near Richmond, we were inspired by other volunteers. Several had resigned good jobs to give the remainder of their lives in mission service. About half of that group will not be on any salary, but are caring for their living expenses just as we will be doing."

The Webbs will be living in the Glens' home while the Glens are in the States. The address will be Fohrenweg 11, 8000 Munich 90, West Germany.



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## Youngest honor oldest

By Gloria Stanton

The Mission Friends organization of Morrison Chapel Baptist Church, Cleveland, Mississippi, recently donated the New Testament, KJV, on cassette tape to the church library, "in honor of E. L. Stanton, Bud Blaylock and Bob Crosby for their service as deacons since 1933." The three men were the first deacons to be ordained in the Morrison Chapel church building.

## Pastor, deacon killed by former member

By Herb Hollinger

LOS ANGELES (BP) — The pastor and senior deacon of Los Angeles' First Chinese Baptist Church were shot to death June 30 by a former member of the church, who later was slain himself by an off-duty sheriff's deputy.

Los Angeles County sheriff's homicide investigators said Assistant Pastor Gregory R. Owyang, 36, and Senior Deacon Li Fook King, 58, were gunned down by Dan Bong Jow, described by church officials as emotionally disturbed. Sheriff's investigators said Jow apparently was bent on also shooting his former wife and members of her family who attended the church but who hadn't arrived at the time of the shooting.

Witnesses said Jow was killed by Donald Leverence, an off-duty sheriff's deputy, who was visiting the 8 a.m. service. The 350 worshippers at the early morning service scrambled for safety as Leverence and Jow exchanged fire. No other injuries were reported.

First Chinese Baptist Church with 1,000 members is one of the largest churches affiliated with The Southern Baptist General Convention of California.

The bizarre shooting happened on the eve of the 15th Baptist World Congress which opened a six-day run July 2 in the Los Angeles Convention Center. The Chinese church had been helping with the congress.

Church officials and members, visibly shaken by the shooting, were asked to break into small groups and pray by another assistant pastor, Herman Tang.

Li was declared dead about one hour after the shooting and Owyang died of a gunshot wound to the head about ten hours later at County-USC Medical Center.

Tang said Jow had not attended services for about five years and had been "emotionally sick" in recent years, had lost his job and been divorced after leaving the church.

Owyang, although officially listed as assistant pastor, actually was acting as the church's senior pastor since the retirement several years ago of longtime pastor Richard Lin.

Owyang is survived by his wife, Annie, and three children. Li is survived by his wife, Irene, and three children.

Herb Hollinger edits the California Southern Baptist newspaper.

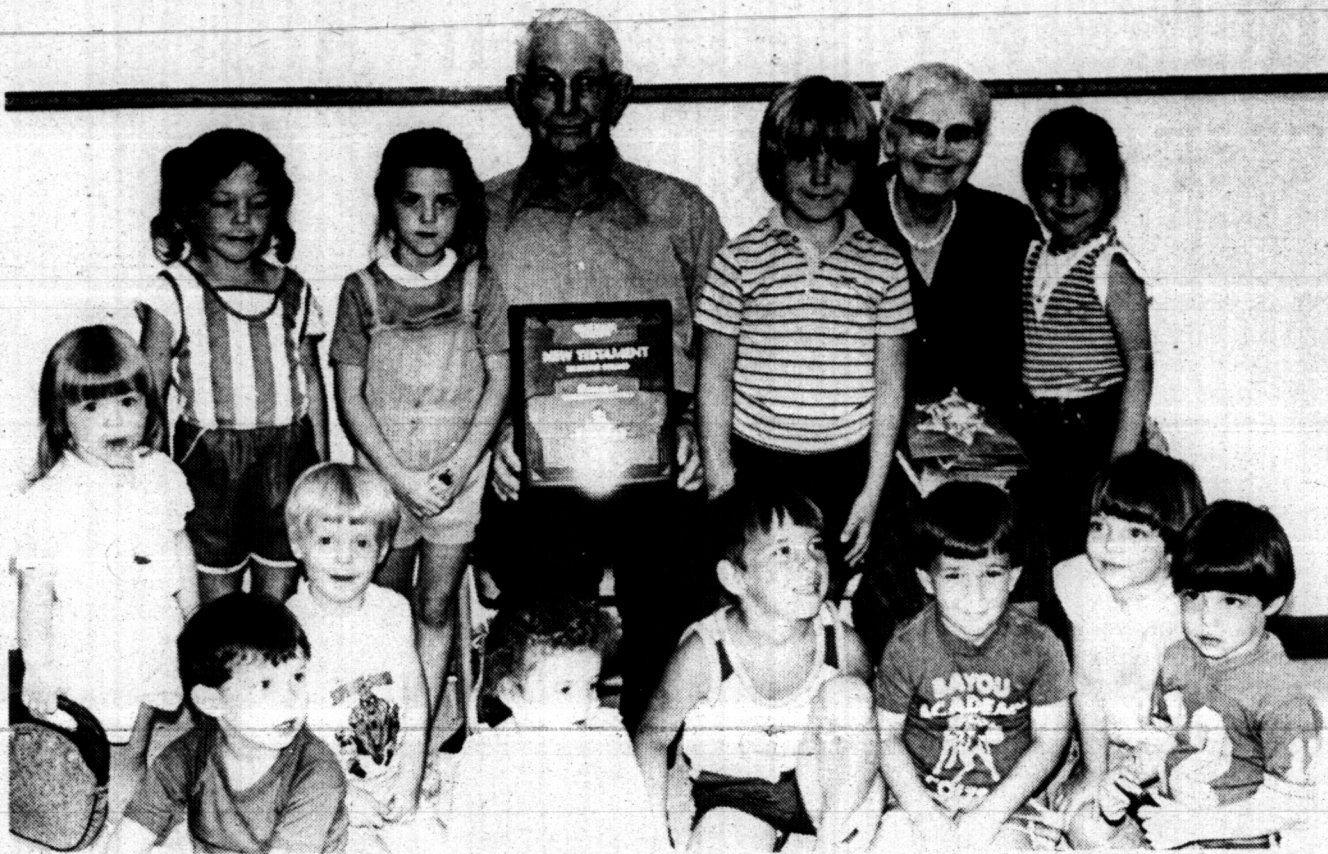
Stanton and his wife, Essie, the oldest active couple in the church, were on hand for the June presentation. Afterward, Stanton recollected a variety of tasks he was called on to perform during the span of his 50-plus years as a deacon. They ranged from tending the early gas carbide lights, to filling the baptistry, to helping find pastors.

"I enjoyed the human service work. I liked the responsibility," he said.

Stanton, who has served as a deacon under 19 different pastors, rotated off as an active deacon in 1984. In October, 1978, he was honored by the church for 41 years of service as church clerk.

In reference to the tape presentation honoring the three deacons Stanton said, "I think it was nice to give it in our honor."

Gloria Stanton, free-lance writer, lives in Rochester, New York. E. L. Stanton is her father-in-law.



Morrison Chapel Church, Cleveland, recently honored three men of the church, each of whom has served as a deacon for more than 50 years. Mission Friends at the church presented the New Testament on cassette tapes to the church library in

their honor. With the Mission Friends are E. L. Stanton, 80, one of the men honored, and his wife, Essie. Also honored were D. O. Blaylock, 87, and Bob Crosby, 87.

# Missionaries still work in world trouble spots

By Art Toalston

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Terrorists, wreaking havoc in the Middle East, Latin America and elsewhere last month, shoved their way onto network newscasts and the front pages of the world's newspapers.

Southern Baptist missionaries, continuing to share the gospel in many of the world's trouble spots, got no such attention. They don't want it or need it, unless it comes in the form of prayer.

Bill O'Brien, executive vice-president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, said the recent escalation in global turmoil is "a reminder that missionaries continue to live in a real world marked by this kind of terrorism."

"As Baptists see the datelines from (news) stories around the world, it should be a call to prayer for missionaries and nationals who are faithfully working to reconcile people to Christ," O'Brien said.

In most of the 106 countries where 3,500-plus Southern Baptist missionaries work, terrorism is no more of an immediate problem than it is for most Baptists back home. Missionaries face the same general considerations as American tourists and government or business employees working abroad.

In countries where terrorists have struck, missionaries take appropriate precautions, such as limiting or varying their travels, or not lingering too long at home in front of large windows. Still, they continue to evangelize and undergird local churches.

"We are all being careful as we go about our activities and ministries," wrote a missionary in El Salvador, adding, "Please keep us in your prayers." She noted the cafe where leftist gunmen shot and killed four

Marines, two U.S. businessmen, and seven Salvadorans June 19 in San Salvador is about two miles from where missionaries live.

Bill Stennett, literature missionary to the Central American country since 1977, addressed the memorial service for the Marines in the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador. A fellow missionary reported "security was tight and everyone was solemn, as could be expected."

But Stennett wants Baptists to see a more important dimension of his work. In 1983, for example, "I must have baptized over 100 people," he said. "But that didn't get out. What got out was the one day we almost got our car stolen" by a band of urban guerrillas.

Beirut, Lebanon, a city of about two million people, is "just one of a great many places in the world where people are trying to go on with their lives" in the midst of strife, said Nancie Wingo, missionary educator on furlough from there.

Countless Lebanese "want to get on with their lives . . . want to do something good with their lives," she said. "There are more people who relate to each other in very kind and loving ways than those who are perpetuating all the meanness."

Foreign Mission Board policy gives each missionary family full latitude to decide whether to continue working in a trouble spot or move to a safer location.

Yet even when tension isn't at a peak, missionaries still face understandable concerns. One missionary in strife-torn Zimbabwe, realizing she had to come to grips with her fear, prayed, "Lord, I can't live this way here. Take it from me, or I can't stay here." The prayer was

answered, she says. The fear left.

Living with fear can be a day-to-day prayer concern, noted Betty Law, FMB administrator who worked in Cuba prior to and following Fidel Castro's rise to power. She said a missionary tends to be more concerned for family members than for himself.

Fear is lessened by "a conviction you're doing what the Lord wants you to do, that you're where he wants you to be," said Bob Polk, a missionary on furlough from Colombia, where drug traffickers threatened the lives of American diplomats earlier this year.

Especially encouraging to missionaries in trouble spots are letters from family, friends and church members in the United States. "A lot of times, a whole Sunday School class would sign" a card or letter, recalled Polk.

But, he added, "What they (folks in the States) pick up from the news media and what we feel actually living in the situation are, sometimes, two different things. I guess you kind of program yourself to expect a certain amount of violence. Of course, you learn to avoid the places where it's going on."

Missionary prayer concerns reflect a love for the countries where they serve. "This place needs prayer like no other I've ever seen," wrote Katie Warren, another missionary to Colombia. "God has placed some wonderful families here and working together we hope to see more results each day."

Art Toalston writes for the Foreign Mission Board.

## Protesters try flag rip

LOS ANGELES (BP) — The pastor of the Fundamentalist Baptist Tabernacle of Los Angeles took credit July 6 for a disruption of the roll call of nations which concluded the 15th Baptist World Congress.

R. L. Hymers Jr., pastor of the church, said it was his associate pastor, J. Richard Olivas, who leaped onto the stage and attempted to rip the Soviet flag off the pole. He was immediately wrestled to the floor and escorted from the area.

Hymers said the action was taken to protest the presence of Soviet ministers attending the Baptist World Alliance.

The flag, Hymers said, was of an atheist nation that persecutes Christians. "The real Baptists in the Soviet Union are ruthlessly persecuted, jailed and killed by the Christian Soviet regime," he charged.

He accused Billy Graham, who gave the closing address to the congress, of "false prophecy."

When asked if it were a Christian act to pull down the flag, Hymers replied, "It is Christian to pull down the flag of murderers."

## Mormons vow

TEL AVIV, Israel (EP) — Officials of a new Mormon study center, which will be erected on Mount Scopus in Israel, have offered to sign a written agreement not to engage in missionary activity, Israel's Knesset Interior Committee was told last week.

Jerusalem attorney Yosef Kukia, who represents the Mormon institutions, told the committee that the Mormons had agreed to the demand of committee chairman Dov Shilansky on this issue. Shilansky has asked two government legal advisors to meet with Kukia to draft a "clear, explicit, and unambiguous" agreement.



# Faces And Places

by anne washburn mc williams

## Patricia Lee

Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth (Proverbs 27:1).

Tomorrow — where will we be  
what will we do  
what will we see?  
God is at the controls of life.  
The future we may not understand —  
The prospect of tomorrow or  
beyond —  
But he takes life for just today  
And lifts it toward a purpose  
for tomorrow.  
—Patricia Lee

At the border between Egypt and Israel, I sat beside an outdoor table, eating a box lunch packed that morning by a hotel kitchen crew in Jerusalem. I selected the sandwiches and fruits I wanted, and threw the rest of the food into a garbage can. While we waited for a bus to take us to the Suez Canal, Patricia Lee saw a woman digging into the garbage can, and picking out food that I and other tourists had thrown away.

Pat told me later, "I had read about hunger, but when I saw it, I knew I had to do something."

Since then, she has written a book of religious poetry, *The Keeper of the Door*. It is published by Carlton Press and sells for \$5.95. Wal-Mart in Greenwood, where she is manager of the shoe department, recently held an autograph party in her honor. And all proceeds from the sale of her book, she said, will go to Baptist World Hunger Relief.

It was on a plane, enroute to Israel, that I first met Pat Lee, an exuberant and beautiful redhead. She and her mother, Faye Bennett, were sitting next to me. As we flew over New York City at night, she shook her head, in

amazement over our tour plans. "I just can't believe this. I just can't believe it!" Her blue-green eyes shot out sparklers of excitement.

Last year her department was number one in sales, among all shoe departments in the Wal-Mart chain. As a result, Pat was honored at the recent stockholders' meeting held in Bentonville, Ark.

I understand that she's a pretty good detective in her department, too! One day a big man walked out with a box of shoes, and she chased him across the parking lot. Another time, a security officer in disguise tried to trick her and wear a pair of shoes out, unpaid for — but she saw the clean soles, and stopped him.

In 1982 I visited Pat in Greenwood and met her two boys, Alfred and Jason. Also I saw some of her father, James Bennett's, lovely wood carvings. And I interviewed her mother and wrote a column about her remarkable ability to walk after having a malignant tumor removed from around her spinal cord.

Her great-aunt, Alma Pittman, is famous for her daylilies in Winona. (Betty Smith has written in *Alongside*, the WMU newspaper, about Alma and her generosity in giving to mission causes).

Pat's unselfishness, her faithfulness in prayer, her joyous, generous attitude reflect her allegiance to Christ. She is a member of the Valley Hill Baptist Church, Carroll County, and is Acteens leader.

The 40-page book, *The Keeper of the Door*, is divided into four parts, God's World, The Love of God, Conflicts, and The Peace of God. Each section is illustrated with a black and white drawing. These illustrations are by Robert Mullen. Each poem is preceded by a Bible verse.

During a time of upheaval in her life, Pat told me, she drew nearer to God. As a result of those deep spiritual experiences, she began to write poems of praise and adoration for her Master. Thinking of Jesus, she wrote of the "bridge of love" that God has built. And she wrote of Jesus, the Rose of Sharon; of Jesus, "the cornerstone of my heart"; and Jesus, the "keeper of the door."

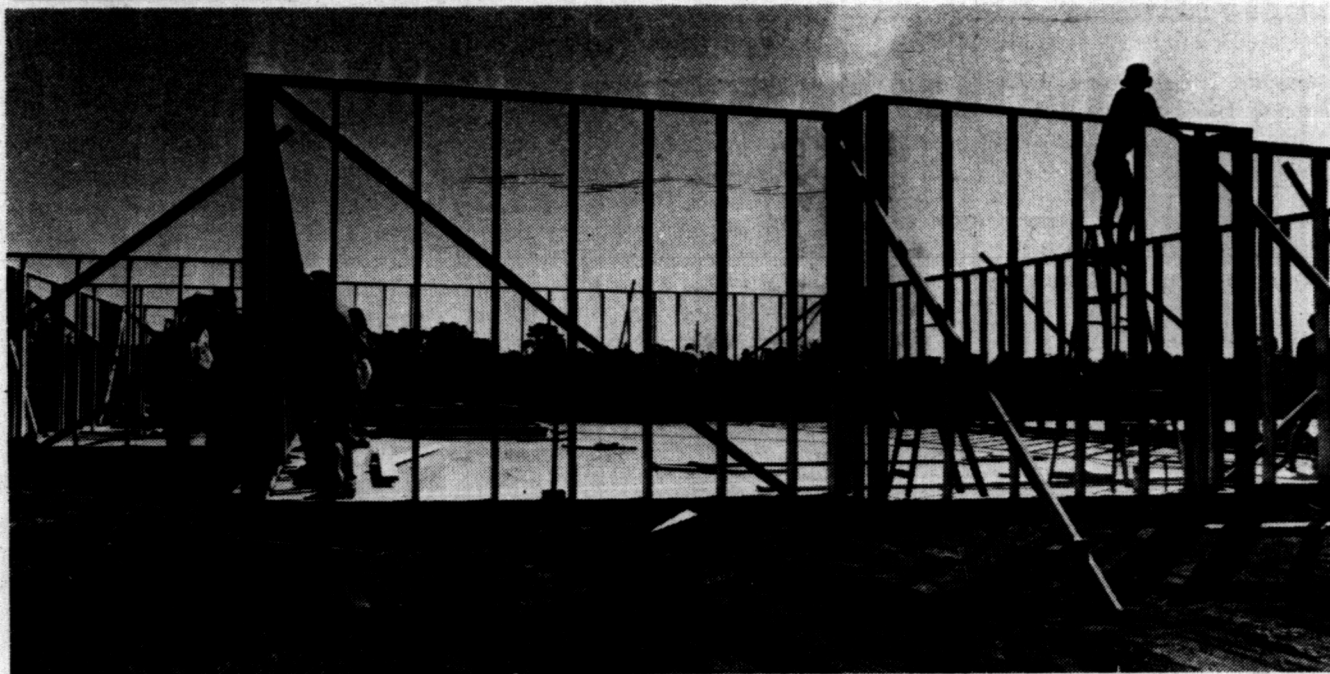
In simple, meaningful phrases she presents age-old truths in new word-pictures. This would make a good gift book, for someone who wants at the same time to contribute to a fund for world hunger. The books are to be on sale at Wal-Mart, or may be obtained from Patricia Lee, Route 1, Box 729, Browning Road, Greenwood, MS 38930.

## Paraguay leads Latin growth

ASUNCION, Paraguay — The Paraguay Baptist Convention reported a 21.1 percent growth in membership during the past year, the largest percentage in Latin America.

Thursday, August 1, 1985

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7



## Harrisburg volunteers build in Goshen

A group of 29 volunteers from three Baptist churches in the Tupelo area, worked 12-hour days beginning construction on the Maple City Baptist Church near Goshen, Ind. The volunteers, 24 from Harrisburg Church, one from Ingram Church, and four from Mt. Vernon Church, completely erected

and blocked in the entire complex, except for the auditorium roof. This was the first of seven teams of volunteers scheduled to help the Goshen congregation build their church. (Photo by Rod Rowe, The Goshen News, used by permission.)

## Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer.

### My first letter

Editor:

Greetings, love, and prayers in our Lord's precious powerful and perfect name.

This is my first letter to any editor and "He" really has to deal with me for me to be willing to write.

Since I am not my own I have been bought with a price. His precious blood and "Jesus Christ," the living and written "Word" is my Lord.

I want to be obedient to Him who called me into His vineyard. Yes, I believe He, God, the Holy Spirit impressed me to write.

I was at the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas and I saw God at work in answer to prayer through our beloved President Brother Charles Stanley, a man of faith and prayer.

Yes, our enemy, Satan was there, trying to defeat what God is doing.

Yes, there has been some things taught in our Christian colleges and seminaries that is not God's truth. Those who God has raised up to expose error should be honored like Paige Patterson, Paul Pressler, Dr. Criswell and all those who love our God and His truth.

I do pray you will put this letter in our paper.

Mrs. W. H. Goodwin  
Picayune

### My first convention

Editor:

Allow me to share my impressions of my first SBC. I worshipped (albeit via radio) with the legendary FBC, but was shocked at the blatant disregard for holy worship. Bro. Criswell never opened his infallible Bible, but instead politicked and executed the liberals. Neither the backslidden pilgrim, nor the condemned lost person could have found the hope of our blessed savior that

Sunday.

The pastor's conference was tiring. Although the musical worship was tremendous, I was wearied with the preachers trying to out brag the other. The most enlightening was Bro. Criswell in his closing message, who, again without opening his infallible Bible, pronounced me a liberal for having a recent degree from an SBC seminary.

I applauded the president when he preached about peace and love, but was disappointed when he refused to listen to his brother. However, I was moved by the reports of the Boards and Commissions. I guess us liberals do have a soft spot somewhere.

I learned a valuable ministry tip, too. Being a young pastor, and not having many contacts for arranging mission trips, I learned from the church that sat behind me, that all I need to do is take 9 youths to the S.B.C. for Tuesday voting, tell them when and how to vote, and then go to Six Flags (Atlanta, hmmm).

Although labeled a liberal, I am the typical Southern Baptist. I am a loyalist because of my commitment to the missionary and educational endeavor. I am conservative because I consider the Bible to be the infalli-

ble and inerrant Word of God. I am Southern Baptist because I am dedicated to God's Word. Who won in Dallas? Satan did. Let's all declare holy war against him and not our brothers and sisters.

Arnold L. Chavers  
Crosby

### Gore Springs anniversary

Editor:

The Gore Springs Baptist Church, Grenada County, Mississippi, will be celebrating its 30th birthday with an all day program on October 20, 1985. We are making an effort to get in touch with every person who has been a member of the church in former years and are taking this method to get names and addresses of same so they can be sent an invitation for the event.

If you or members of your family have been connected with this church in any way or you know someone who has been, please send any pertinent information to Mrs. Bobbie James, Rt. 1, Box 6, Gore Springs, MS 38929.

Thank you.

Mrs. Earl Gillon  
Rt. 1, Box 20  
Gore Springs, MS 38929



Wal-Mart at Greenwood recently gave an autograph party for Patricia Lee, introducing her book, *The Keeper of the Door*.

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Paul Smith



## Revival Dates

**Rocky Point (Leake):** Aug. 4-9; Ronnie Ballard, evangelist; Danny Moss, music; David Wilkinson, pastor.

**Friendship West (Tallahatchie):** 4 miles west of Sumner; Aug. 4-9; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Billy Joe Beckett, Indianola, evangelist; Joe Brown, pastor.

**Zion Hill, Liberty:** Aug. 5-9; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; David Millican, pastor; Southside, McComb, evangelist; Ivy Butler, Zion Hill, music; Odus Jackson, pastor.

**Ebenezer, Senatobia:** Aug. 4-9; 10:30 a.m., 7 p.m.; Paul Harwood, Oxford, evangelist; Chester Beasley, Horn Lake, singer; Claude Lazenby, pastor.

**Stanton, Natchez; Aug. 4-9; Randall Creel, Sulphur Springs, Sebastopol, evangelist; John Smith, Fayette, music director; services, 7 each night; Steve Purvis, pastor.**

**Salem, Collins:** Aug. 4-9; services, Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. 7:30 p.m.; Gordon Sansing, evangelist; Raymond Ball, music evangelist; James McLemore, pastor; Barry Worrell, minister of music.

**New Hope (Monroe):** tent revival at the ball field in Amory; Aug. 4-9; 7:30 p.m.; Jerry Swimmer, full-time evangelist from Iuka, preaching; Wade Cook, pastor.

**Wheeler Grove (Alcorn):** Aug. 4-9; R. J. Wilemon, evangelist; Dexter Benjamin, music evangelist; services 7 p.m.; Kara Blackard, pastor.

**Indian Springs, Laurel:** Aug. 4-9; morning service, 11 a.m.; evening service, 7 p.m.; Bob Barnes, evangelist; Hubert Greer, music; Tim Sanford, pastor.

**Mt. Zion, Independence:** Aug. 4-7: Junior Hill, Hartselle, Ala., evangelist; musicians, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Harland; services at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; Austin Moore, Jr., pastor.

**Mount Vernon (Newton):** Aug. 4-9; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.; Mon.-Fri.; 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Alben Gasten, Mobile, Ala., evangelist; Jerry Peagler, Vicksburg, music director; Bill Hutto, pastor.

**Concord (Yazoo):** Aug. 4-9; Sunday, homecoming; morning worship, 11:00 a.m.; dinner on the ground; afternoon service; Mon.-Fri., services, 7:30 p.m.; Willis Curtis, pastor; First Denham Springs, La., evangelist; B. B. Neely, music; Tommy Bufkin, pastor.

Oak Grove, Mt. Olive (Smith): Aug 4-7: Sunday services, 11 a.m., 7 p.m. Mon. - Wed., 11 a.m.; nightly services 7:30 p.m.; Lois Jane and Ron Huddleston, Nashville, Tenn., music: Steve Hale, Evansville, Ind. evangelist.

County Line, Dossville: Aug. 4-8  
Sunday services, 11 a.m.; Sunday  
night, 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.  
Reed Dickens, Ethel, speaker; Coun-  
ty Line has no pastor at this time.

**Arm, Silver Creek:** Aug. 4-9; Luth Price, Laurel, evangelist; John McDaniels, Columbia, music; night services, 7:30; L. C. Anthony, pastor.

**Roxie, (Franklin):** July 28-Aug. 2; services during the week 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Talmadge Smith, director of missions, Copiah-Lincoln Association, evangelist; Paul Hancock, professor of Church Music, Mobile College, music; Joseph B. Knight, pastor.

**Hepzibah (Lawrence):** Aug. 4-9; Guy Gray, Pearl, evangelist; Mrs. Pam Letchworth, music; morning services, 10 a.m., with children's church, conducted by Bob Goolsby, pastor; evening services, 7 p.m.

**Pearson, Pearl:** Aug. 4-9; Sunday, regular services; Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Jim Yates, First, Yazoo City, evangelist; Graham Smith, Morrison Heights, Clinton, music; Wayne Long, pastor.

**Longview (Oktibbeha):** Aug. 4-9; Sunday, regular services; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Jackie Yow, pastor, Flag Lake, Sarah, evangelist; Dudley Brasher, minister of music, Southside, Aberdeen, music leader; James R. Hutcherson, pastor.

**New Hope (Lafayette):** Aug. 4-7: H. T. Curbow, pastor, New Prospect, Olive Branch, evangelist; Sunday services, 11 a.m.; each evening, 7:30 p.m.; Millard L. Swinney, interim pastor.

**Tangipahoa, Rt. 4, Summit:** July 28-Aug. 2; 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Cliff Estes, Shreveport, full-time teaching and evangelism; J. M. Thornhill, Silver Springs, music; Jerry Wise, pastor.

**Sunrise, Route 16, Hattiesburg:** Aug. 4-7; homecoming, Aug. 4; Sunday School 9:45 a.m., morning worship, 11 a.m., with dinner on the grounds to follow; Church Training 6 p.m. and evening worship 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Larry L. Aultman, ordained to the ministry at Sunrise and is a former pastor of Buck Creek, Richton,

presently serving as pastor of First, Gladewater, Tex., evangelist; Jim Jackson, Hattiesburg, former minister of music and youth at Sunrise, music; special emphasis given for the building fund; The new sanctuary is nearing completion and all efforts are being made to finish construction debt free; Dorman Laird, interim pastor.

**County Line, Crystal Springs:** Aug. 4-7; services, 11 a.m. Sunday; 7:30 p.m. nightly; covered-dish lunch, Sunday at noon; and no Sunday evening service; Clifton Perkins, Church-Minister Relations & Annuity Director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention, preaching; music by Tom Martin; Bob Mack, pastor; The church is located on County Line Road, just north of Crystal Springs. The bridge is still out, approach from the north via Old Highway 51.

**Oak Grove, (Mississippi):** Aug. 2-4; Gerald Hull, pastor, Magnolia, Holden, La., evangelist; C. O. Stegall, member of gospel singers "Continental" will lead the singing; services, 7:30 p.m., Fri. and Sat.; regular Sunday morning services; dinner in fellowship hall; "The Continentals," music; Melvin Daniel, pastor.

**Union, (Covington):** Aug. 4-9; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; dinner on grounds; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Randle Poss, pastor; First, Maben, evangelist; W. C. Rainey, Rainbow Ministries, Petal, music; Bill Mitchell, pastor.

**Mt. Zion (Simpson):** Aug. 4-9; Danny Berry, pastor, Bethany, Prentiss evangelist; Ronnie Cottingham, music evangelist, Lucedale, music; services Sunday 11:00 a.m. with lunch served and followed by an afternoon service; Mon.-Fri., 7:00 p.m.; Robert Sones, pastor.

**Barton (George):** Aug. 4-9; Bruce L. Worrell, pastor, Sand Hill, evangelist; Don Nichols, music evangelist; services Sunday 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; week days 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. John W. Henry, pastor.

**Calvary, Columbus:** Aug. 4-9; David Perry, pastor, Mt. Zion (Lowndes), evangelist; J. E. Sims, minister of music, Calvary, music; services, Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon. - Fri., 12:20 and 7 p.m. Roy D. Hawkins, pastor.

**Thomastown, Thomastown:** Aug. 4-9; services 11 a.m., 7 p.m., Sunday; during week, 7 p.m.; no night services; Eddie Hamilton, pastor, First, Carthage, evangelist; Ralph Hunt, music; W. A. Troutman, pastor.

**First, Byhalia:** Aug. 4-9; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., worship, 11 a.m.; Mon.-Fri., 12 noon; night services, 7:30 p.m.; Ted Witchen, Memphis, evangelist; Tommy Woods, music; Ken McMillen, pastor.

**Twin Lakes (Hinds-Madison):** Aug. 4-7; Russell Louden, pastor Briarwood Drive, Jackson, evangelist; Lee Gordon, Jackson, singer; services Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Mon. - Fri. 7:30 p.m.; Bill Stanford, pastor.

**Oakland Grove, Laurel:** Aug. 4-9, 7 p.m. each evening; speakers, Sun. a.m., D. D. Satterwhite, former pastor of Bay Springs; Sun. p.m., D. J. Benson, Salem Heights; Mon., Harold Ishee, former pastor, Plainway; Tues. Lindsey Blackledge, pastor, Oakland Grove; Wed., Thomas Broadhead, Sharon First; and Fri., Edd Hollomon, Corinth; Peter Fairley, minister of music-youth, Plainway; music; Sun., Aug. 11, the church will dedicate new sanctuary, homecoming, with dinner after the morning

services, Mitchell Osborne speaking at 1:30 p.m.; The Covenant Quartet from Laurel, special music during the afternoon.

**Pine Grove (Simpson):** Aug. 4-9; Sun. services, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Keith Cook, evangelist; Steve Walker, music; Doug Hogg, pastor.

**Strong Hope (Copiah):** Aug. 7-11; at 7 p.m.; John Stevens, pastor, evangelist; Mrs. Lisa Leavell of Jackson, music director; dinner on the ground Aug. 11 after morning worship service; no afternoon or night service Aug. 11.

## Graham record

**SHEFFIELD, England (EP)** — Records tumbled in **Sheffield** in late June during **Evangelist** Billy Graham eight-day mission at **Bramall Lane Soccer Ground**.

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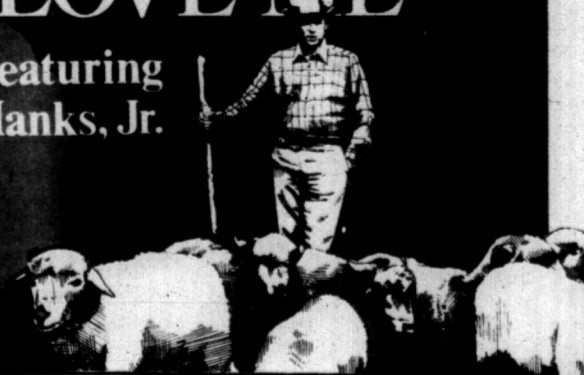
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**These churches are premiering the film series this summer:**

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<p>First Baptist Church Midland, Texas Dr. Daniel Vestal</p>	<p>Briarcrest Baptist Church Memphis, Tennessee Dr. Wayne Allen</p>	<p>First Baptist Church Atlanta, Georgia Dr. Charles Stanley</p>	<p>First Baptist Church Bossier City, Louisiana Dr. Fred Lowery</p>	<p>Prestonwood Baptist Church Dallas, Texas Dr. Billy Weber</p>	<p>First Baptist Church San Angelo, Texas Dr. Gerald Mc Bride</p>
<p>Elmcrest Baptist Church Arlene, Texas Rev. T. C. Melton</p>	<p>First Baptist Church Yazoo City, Mississippi Dr. Jim Yates</p>	<p>First Baptist Church Odessa, Texas Dr. Bailey Stone</p>	<p>First Baptist Church Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Dr. Gene Garrison</p>	<p>First Baptist Church, Houston, Texas Dr. John Bisagno</p>	<p>Southcliff Baptist Church Fort Worth, Texas Dr. Hal Brooks</p>
					<p>Merrimon Avenue Baptist Church Asheville, North Carolina Dr. Billy Cline</p>
					<p>Saddleback Community Church Laguna, California Rev. Rick Warren</p>
					<p>First Baptist Church Vacaville, California Rev. Ralph Silva</p>



# Just for the Record



**RAs, Sam and Ginny Cannata Chapter, Parkview, Greenville,** visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Curry of Hollandale, where Mrs. Cannata was reared. The Cannatas, foreign missionaries in the Sudan, Kenya, and Zimbabwe, will be speaking in the evening service at Parkview, July 28, 7 p.m. Pictured, left to right, are Steve Taylor, counselor, Jon Hill, Roy Thompson, E. A. Curry, father of Mrs. Cannata, Mrs. E. A. Curry, stepmother, Billy Thompson, Jason Robertson, Mark Montague, and Jason Richardson. Not pictured, counselor Curtis Pervis.



**Summerwood Church, Olive Branch,** broke ground June 2 for a \$269,000 interim sanctuary and education facility. The contract was awarded to Smith-Doyle-Winters Cont., Inc. of Memphis. David Rowland led the singing of "All Hail the Power" and "To God be the Glory," assisted by Robert Wilkins on the trumpet, and Scott Rowland and Jeoffrey Jones on trombone. The pastor, Armond Taylor, brought a message. Henry Rollins led the prayer of dedication. Dean Mitchell led the benediction. A fellowship meal was served. Left to right are Armond D. Taylor, pastor; Jim Vance, deacon representative; Doris Scott, youth director; H. V. Rollins, oldest member; and Sam Holmes, chairman, Building Committee.

The WMU of Corinth Church, Heidelberg, will sponsor an Arts & Crafts show in the fellowship hall. The date set is Aug. 4, 2-4 p.m. If anyone wishes to take part in this event, write Rt. 1, Heidelberg, Ms. 39439; or call 787-3828. Edd Holloman is pastor.

First, Rummelstown: Vacation Bible School, Aug. 5-9; nursery — age 11, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.; youth department, 7:30 p.m.; Danny L. Chaney, pastor, director of the school.

We should exchange problems. Everybody knows how to solve the other fellow's.

If you see good in everything, you may be an optimist. On the other hand, you may be nuts.

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## Missionary News

Terry Dent, journeyman to South Africa, has completed his two-year term of service as a teacher in Johannesburg, South Africa, and returned to the States (address: 525 W. Cedar Hill Dr., Holly Springs, Miss. 38635), his hometown. Before he was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1983, he was a teacher in Clinton, Miss.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Doyme Robertson, missionaries to Peru, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Apartado 3177, Lima, Peru). He was born in Manila, Ark., and also lived in Melbourne, Harrison and Jonesboro, Ark., and Hickman, Ky., while growing up. The former Martha Mathis, she was born in Hattiesburg, Miss., and grew up in Boaz, Ala. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1979.

Anne Harrington, journeyman to Japan, has completed her two-year term of service as an encounter minister in Tokyo, Japan, and returned to the States (address: Box 546, Houston, Miss. 38851), her hometown. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1983, she was graduated from Blue Mountain (Miss.) College.

Jeff Keyes, journeyman to Botswana, has completed his two-year term of service as assistant to the mission business manager/treasurer, Gaborone, Botswana, and returned to the States (address: 1401 Post Rd., Clinton, Miss. 39056), his hometown. He was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1983.

Kathy and John McNair, missionaries to Uruguay, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Rt. 1, Box 173, Magee, Miss. 39111), his hometown. She was born in Poplarville.

Lynda and David A. Daniels, missionaries to Uruguay, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Ayda, 19 de Abril 3532, Montevideo, Uruguay). They were born in Miami, but he also lived in Pelahatchie.

Ann and Durwood L. Broughton, missionaries to the Ivory Coast, have completed language study in France and arrived on the field (address: BP 512, Bouake, Ivory Coast). The former Ann Green, she was born in Biloxi.



Dedication services were held June 30, at **New Prospect, Iuka,** for the new educational building. The church has a new fellowship hall and five additional classrooms. Also, the old fellowship hall was converted into a nursery, toddler room, pastor's study and church office. Jerry Swimmer, member of the church, preached the dedication sermon. Eugene Walden, pastor, led the church in the Act of Dedication and Walter Ballard led the prayer of dedication.

## Journeymen application deadline set at Aug. 15

RICHMOND, Va.—Those who want to be included in the early group of journeymen from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board next year must have their applications postmarked by Aug. 15.

The journeyman program seeks college graduates, age 26 and under, interested in using their skills on overseas mission fields for two years.

Applicants must be active Southern Baptists, U.S. citizens, and qualified for specific mission tasks. If not single, they must be childless and married for at least one year. Also, they must be in good physical and emotional health.

Requests for the first group of the 1985-87 term are still coming in from missionaries throughout the world. Youth and student workers, teachers, nurses and business people such as secretaries and bookkeepers are highly priority requests this year.

Applicants selected will begin training March 3 and go to the field in

April. A second group of journeymen next year will begin training next August. Applications for their group will be due Jan. 15.

Those interested in applying for service in 1985-87 should contact the Foreign Mission Board immediately. Call Wendy Norvelle in the Personnel Selection Department at (804) 353-0151.

## Walnut reaches 50th birthday

Walnut Church, Tippah County, will celebrate its 50th anniversary August 11. The day's schedule will include Sunday School at 10 a.m., preaching services at 11 a.m., lunch at the church at noon, and singing in the afternoon. Former pastors have been invited to bring messages. Guy Thomas Garrett is interim pastor.

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## Devotional

## The price is high

By Jack B. Bennett

*Ye are bought with a price; be ye not the servants of men (I Cor. 7:23).*  
Growing up in Mississippi was a special blessing, but a blessing of mixed emotions. Growing up on a farm in the northeast Mississippi hills assured you of plenty of food but not necessarily plenty of money. I can well remember going into stores and wanting some special item only to realize I just did not have the money necessary to buy it. The price was too high for me to pay. Therefore, I had to leave the store with my "want" unfulfilled.



In the realm of the Spirit, however, I have never gone away wanting. The Lord paid the ultimate price for me on the Cross. He purchased me as a prized possession. All of us are the "prized possessions" for which Christ died. We always need to remember how special we are in Christ's sight.

Bennett Yes, the price he paid was high. Yes, the price was the ultimate price — his life for my life — his life for your life. Because of Christ's death and glorious resurrection we can face all the burdens, or problems of life. The reason many real Christians are harassed with doubts and fears is that they have failed to lean entirely upon their beloved Savior and have rested part of the weight of their well-being on their own experience. We look at ourselves too much and too little at the infinite price paid for us. For comfort we must always look to our Savior. We never fail to have our "wants" satisfied as long as our "wants" are entrusted to him.

*I've found the pearl of greatest price!*

*My heart doth sing for joy;*

*and sing I must, a Christ I have!*

*Oh, what a Christ have I.*

Bennett is pastor, First, Ripley.

## Homecomings

Hebron (Grenada): Aug. 4; 11 a.m.; Sun. night, 7 p.m.; revival, Aug. 5-8, 7:00 p.m.; Guy Reedy, First, Water Valley, evangelist; Criss Brown, leading the music; William C. Foster, pastor.

Oakvale, Oakvale: August. 4, homecoming; revival, Aug. 4-Aug. 9; Randall Broome, pastor, Oconee, Georgia, evangelist; music under the direction of Mona and David Dewease, pastor of Oakvale; a "Roll Call" of members will take place during the Sunday morning service; services will be 11 and 6:30 Sunday and 7 nightly during the week.

Big Springs, (Lincoln): Aug. 4; homecoming; 80th anniversary; Sunday school, 10 a.m.; morning worship, 11 a.m.; former pastor, Frank Leggett, bringing the message; lunch in fellowship hall, followed by special music and singing in the afternoon; Dennis Murray, pastor.

First, Pontotoc: homecoming, Aug. 4; Lavon Moore, former pastor, Associational Director of Missions, Attala County, preaching at 11 a.m.; dinner on the ground and afternoon services of singing and fellowship; Julian Fagan, pastor.

First, Ovett: homecoming, Aug. 4; Sunday School, 10 a.m. and worship service, 11 a.m.; lunch served in fellowship hall immediately following the service; special singing, 1:30 p.m. Mike Aultman, pastor; Al Moore, minister of music.

Oak Grove, 3 mi. north of Shubuta, Hwy 45: homecoming, Aug. 4, lunch will be spread after morning worship service.

Immanuel, Cleveland: homecoming, Aug. 4; Sunday School begins at 9:45 and worship at 11; lunch will be served at the church, followed by a short program in the afternoon.

Beacon Hattiesburg: homecoming, Aug. 4, 20th year anniversary; dinner and afternoon singing will follow the worship service; Cecil Hathorn, pastor.

ASHLAND, KY. (EP) — Pornographic magazines are no longer being sold through Super America convenience stores. The Board of Managers of Ashland Oil Company, which owns Super America, decided to drop pornographic magazines effective July 1.

## Names in the News

Mrs. Hattie Elizabeth Russell, Raleigh, 77, died July 18 at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center. She was the mother of Mrs. David (Bobbie Nell) Britt, Brandon, who is employed as secretary in the Church Training Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Services were July 20 in Bay Springs, on the date of her 61st wedding anniversary. Burial was in Cedar Grove Cemetery in Smith County. Mrs. Russell was a member of the Cedar Grove Methodist Church.

Survivors other than Mrs. Britt include her husband, Aulton Russell of Raleigh; a second daughter, Dorothy Jean McCluer of Terry; a brother, Arnold Roberson of Jackson; and four grandchildren, Margaret Elizabeth McCluer, Beverly Jean McCluer, David Russell Britt, and Bobbie Lynn Britt. Another grandson, Sidney Curtis McCluer, Jr., is deceased. John Carter and Stanley Barnett conducted the funeral service.

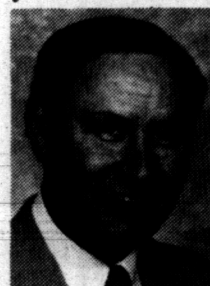
Stan Costilow is serving as summer minister of youth at Arkadelphia Church, Lauderdale Association. He is a student at Clarke College.

Mrs. J. C. (Ruth) Graves recently retired, after being a member of the Harrisburg, Tupelo, clerical staff for 27 years. Church members gave her a new microwave oven and a room air conditioner as retirement gifts, and the church staff presented her with a gold necklace. A reception was given in her honor June 14. When first employed, she was the only secretary—pastor's, minister of music's secretary, and church secretary, which included finance.

Floyd Tharp, has resigned the pastorate of Macedonia Church, Lee County, to accept a position as associate pastor in Georgia.

Ray Brooks, pastor of First Indian Church, Pascagoula, has resigned to return to his hometown of Pembroke, N.C., to do supply and interim preaching.

Bryan Harris, minister to youth at First Church, Columbus, for eight years has announced his resignation.



Harris On Sept. 1, he will go to a similar position at First Church, Texas City, Tex. Harris is a native Texan, and a graduate of East Texas Baptist University. He came to Columbus from Calvary Church, Longview. Married to the former Rebecca Hunt, he is father of three children. Harris has served as vice-president of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association.

Terry L. Williams resigned as pastor of Polkville First, Smith County, to begin his pastoral duties at Mantee, Webster County, June 30. He is a graduate of Clarke College, Mississippi College, and will complete the master of divinity degree program from New Orleans Seminary, August 16. He plans to begin doctoral work in January, 1986. He has served as pastor of Mt. Pleasant, Newton County. He is married to the former Norrie Coxwell of Waynesboro.

## Perry sponsors missions round-up

Woman's Missionary Union, Perry County Association sponsored a Summer Mission Round-up for Mission Friends, GAS, and Acteens on Saturday, July 13.

A total of 52 attended and saw slides of Zimbabwe shown by Mrs. Margaret Fortenberry (MK) of Collins, and heard Molly Fairchild, a ventriloquist who has done volunteer mission work in India.

## Pray for MKs

August 13—Noemi Gonzalez, Gulf Coast, Jefferson Davis.

August 23—F. Elizabeth Raley, Taiwan, Mississippi College.

August 24—Mark A. Perrill, Thailand, Copiah-Lincoln.

Mark Walker has been called as music director of Commission Road Church, Gulf Coast.

Robert Cooper, pastor, Gulfport Heights, has resigned to move to the pastorate of First Church, New Augusta.

Charlie Rempel has resigned the pastorate of Success Church, Gulf Coast, and has accepted a call to First Church, Holt, Fla. Members of Success Church honored the Rempels with an appreciation fellowship. Rempel was recently graduated from New Orleans Seminary.



Sullivan Sullivan has also served churches in Fort Worth, Tex., and Ecu. He is a graduate of the University of Mississippi and Southwestern Seminary.

Tim Sullivan, has resigned as minister of music and activities of Midway, Jackson to accept the position as associate director of Baptist Campus Ministries in Miami, Florida.

## Book Reviews

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD, arranged by Gaye Sikes, organist, First Baptist Church, Yazoo City; published by Broadman Press; Nashville, Tenn.; available from Baptist Book Store; \$7.95.

Gaye Sikes has put together an absolutely delightful collection of organ-piano duets. And, wonder of wonders, she didn't use "Hyfrydol" nor "St. Anne"!

The selections cover a wide range of instrumentalist needs including "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind," "He Leadeth Me," "I Surrender All," "Spirit of the Living God/Holy Spirit, Breathe on Me" of a meditative theme; "Let Us Break Bread Together," ideal for the Lord's Supper service; "Free from the Law/Since I Have Been Redeemed," "The Great Physician," "When We All Get to Heaven" of a majestic nature; and a spirited arrangement of "The Old Time Religion."

The organ accompaniment is moderately easy (probably a requirement of the publisher), which makes the collection ideal for musicians of varying ability. Spirit of the Living God will be a welcome addition to the instrumentalists' library.

—Reviewed by Irene Martin, co-owner of Message Music Publishing Company and pianist at First Church, Richland.

THE SUNNIER SIDE OF DOUBT, by Fred M. Wood; Broadman Press, c1984; 131 pages; paperback, \$4.95.

According to the old saying sometimes we cannot "see the forest for the trees." This is true in studying books of the Bible. It is difficult to understand the parts until we grasp the larger sweep of the whole book. It is helpful to see the "big picture" before proceeding to interpret the various details.

One of the benefits of this popular commentary is that it gives one the "big picture." Wood is not interested in literary forms or syntax. He attempts to get right at the heart of the message of the book of Job.

Wood's chapter divisions follow the natural organizational structure of the book. Chapter one deals with the prologue. Chapters two through four contain the exposition of the three cycles of speeches. Chapter five discusses the speeches of Elihu, and chapter six deals with the Yahweh speeches.

What is the answer of this book to the age old question of suffering? Does the book provide answers for the

questions which come upon us through suffering? Note Wood's conclusion.

"God never answered Job's questions. In fact, he suggested they were the wrong questions, based upon erroneous and presumptuous preconceptions. Rather, God involved Job in the experience of knowing him. When God spoke to Job his perspective changed. In confronting people, a famous psychiatrist is fond of quoting Nietzsche's saying, 'He who knows the why can bear with any how.' The larger truth is, however, that when we know the who our problems are solved. To be assured that God is with us, in spite of our shortcomings and immaturities, brings security even though we do not have answers. When love enters, pressing questions become less important!" (page 129) — Reviewed by Alan Day.

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# Rock Hill member visits former pastor at Ruschlikon

When Violet Kersh of Rankin County visited the International Baptist Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, and spent some time with the seminary president, Altus Newell, and his family, it was a time of reunion.

Newell, from Meridian, was Violet's pastor when he was in Mississippi College. In fact, his first pastorate was her church — Rock Hill, Route 2, Brandon, in the 60s. Often he stayed weekends in the Kersh home, and through the years retained his friendship with the Kersh family.

Violet went to Switzerland earlier this year with a group of 22, most from First Church, Opelika, Ala., where Newell was pastor before he accepted the seminary presidency. Also Mrs. Newell's mother and father, Bill and Reba Barthel of Rayville, La., were in the group, and a niece, Andrea Barthel, as well as Violet's cousin, Eva G. Christian of Greenville.

International Baptist Theological Seminary is in the village of Ruschlikon near the city of Zurich, Switzerland. A European Baptist school, it is supported by the Foreign Mission Board, SBC, the European Baptist Union, and individual gifts.

"Studying at the seminary each year are students from around 24

countries. They come from across the entire continent. Fifty percent of the leaders of European Baptist churches are graduates of the seminary at Ruschlikon. One of every 13 of the graduates is serving as a foreign missionary," Violet learned. The library has 35,000 volumes, in several languages. The school has many opportunities to promote mission, including the use of radio and television.

Violet and others with her arrived on a late Sunday afternoon at Ruschlikon, met the faculty, and toured the main building and gardens. Students representing 20 countries cooked dinner for them.

"We soon felt the closeness and love and spiritual fellowship," Violet said. They attended Sunday night worship service at the seminary chapel. "One thing I shall always remember is the sentence prayers, said in many different languages. All of the service was inspiring. One could not doubt the presence of our Lord." The Newells' three children, Sarah, 13, Amanda, 8, and Justin, 5, read the Scripture during the service.

Afterward they were invited to the president's home for strawberry shortcake and coffee and more fellowship.



Violet Kersh, center, greets Mr. and Mrs. Altus Newell, in Switzerland. Newell, a Mississippian, is president of the Baptist seminary at Ruschlikon.

They were there two days and nights before going on to Austria, Italy, and Germany.

"The seminary is such a beautiful place, overlooking Lake Zurich," said Violet, "a sight you cannot explain to anyone. The weather was great and long will I remember the lovely Alps, many covered in snow. I was surprised how clean the country is, and to learn there is so little crime in Switzerland.

"Beautiful and romantic Switzerland, I have heard it said so many times! Now that I have had the opportunity to visit this wonderful little country, I am reminded of Ecclesiastes 3:11 — 'He hath made everything beautiful in his time.'"

Perhaps the greatest need in America today is a ball point pen that starts when the writer does.

Thursday, August 1, 1985

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 11

## Associational officers may train in four locations

Associational officers training conferences will be held during the last half of August in four locations across the state.

The training programs will be aimed at providing information for associational officers in specialized sessions, according to Chester Vaughn, program director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The officers targeted for training are directors of missions, moderators, clerks, evangelism directors, pastoral ministries directors, and Christian Action Commission chairmen. Vaughn noted that there would be also special sessions for officers in Sunday School, family ministries, Church Training, church music, Woman's Missionary Union, church recreation, Brotherhood, missions development, stewardship, and media library. The missions development areas will include training for black church relations directors, chaplaincy directors, church/community ministries directors, church extension directors, interfaith witness directors, language missions directors, and resort ministries directors.

The four locations of the conferences and the dates are First Church, Oxford, Aug. 24, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; First Church, Brandon, Aug. 26, 5:45 to 9:15 p.m.; First Church, Winona, Aug. 27, 5:45 to 9:15 p.m.; and First Church, Columbia, Aug. 29, 5:45 to 9:15 p.m.

These training programs will be

sponsored by the office of the program director. Vaughn pointed out that the Saturday morning meeting will be followed by a complimentary meal, and the evening sessions will begin with a meal at 5:45 p.m.

Reservations should be made through the offices of the directors of missions.

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The main building at the International Baptist Seminary, Ruschlikon, Zurich, Switzerland, houses classrooms, offices, and a library with 35,000 volumes.

## Preschool weekend will . . .

(Continued from page 3)

Sybil Waldrop is supervisor of the preschool curriculum section at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. The author of a number of books concerning work with children, she holds the doctorate in education from North Texas State University.

Participants may choose to attend any three sessions from the following topics. Preschool: outreach, nature activities, praying with preschoolers, and innovations in prenatal care; Children: outreach, planning, storytelling, and developing Bible skills.

There will also be a session for both preschool and children's workers demonstrating typical Sunday morning teaching/learning activities.

To register for the conference which is sponsored by the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Billy Hudgens, conference director, write Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss., 39571. There is a \$30 registration fee per person which takes care of all expenses during the program. No child care will be offered during the weekend.

## Southern Baptists take part in World Games for Deaf

LOS ANGELES (BP) — Southern Baptists were the only religious group invited to participate in the opening day ceremonies parade at the 15th World Games for the Deaf, which began July 10 at the University of California at Los Angeles stadium.

The Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf (S.B.C.D.) had a representative group in the opening day ceremonies parade at Drake Stadium on the UCLA campus, site of the 1984 Summer Olympics.

The "Texas White Boots," a group of 18 Southern Baptists, followed deaf athletes representing 40 countries into the UCLA stadium. The group, which includes 11 deaf people, then

performed for the nearly 7,000 people gathered at opening ceremonies for the 15th World Games for the Deaf.

During the 10-day competition, the team, made up of members from Tennessee, Texas, New York, New Mexico, Alabama, and Louisiana, sponsored concerts and worship services.

The group also staffed a booth and served free ethnic foods and refreshments prepared by Southern Baptist ethnic congregations in Southern California.

In addition to ministering to individuals attending the games, Southern Baptists hoped to begin five new ministries to the deaf in the Los Angeles area, said Webb.



### Stringer will dedicate sanctuary

Stringer Church, Stringer, will have a dedication service for its new sanctuary and fellowship hall, Sunday, Aug. 4, at 2 p.m. Stringer Church was organized in 1905. This is the third building constructed on the same site. The new one, 4,100 sq. feet, was built by the members themselves with much giving of time and money. The pastor, Jim Manning, will deliver the dedication message, followed by the placing of the cornerstone.



## Faith in the midst of despair

By Anthony S. Kay  
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:2-4; 3:17-19

When all else fails, there is hope. The setting for this lesson is during the time of Israel's subjugation and domination by the Babylonian empire. During these years, the people of God have gone from the glory days of Hezekiah to the long and decadent reign of Manasseh. They have witnessed revival under Josiah and have participated in evil practices of wicked kings such as Jehoiakim.

As the prophet of God indicates in chapter 1, verse 1, he is the recipient of God's oracle. This was equivalent to having a revelation from God. He saw much that was wrong in the land and vs. 2-4 issue in the prophet's complaint.

There is a significant theological question being asked by Habakkuk, "How long shall I cry for help . . . and thou shalt not hear?" Who of us hasn't voiced this cry when we see wickedness flourish? Whether the enemy, as some suppose, was an enemy from without (Babylonia) or an enemy from within (decadent and irreligious people of God), the cry re-

mains — WHY? Why doesn't God do something? Doesn't he see the violence in the land? Physical and ethical harm to the nation was rampant. Wrongs, troubles, destruction, contention and strife are all descriptive words of a perplexed and grappling prophet. "What is the world coming to?" he must have been saying.

Chapter 2, verses 2-4, show the prophet's commission. After his opening words of despair, Habakkuk concludes that God is indeed in control of his world. However, God keeps his own time schedule. He does not necessarily act because man thinks He should. Habakkuk is commissioned to write his message and he is given the responsibility of speaking (writing) the truth clearly for the people. Habakkuk is to stand in the line of those who speak as God directs them. To a degree, he does not speak for God — God speaks through him the message that all need to hear. The message is basically this: even in the violence and turmoil of life, where sin abounds and decay is evident in society, don't despair; for God is still in con-

trol and those who live by faith, the righteous of God, shall see God's hand at work. Don't become impatient and give up. Wait on the Lord.

The last segment of our study addresses the prophet's faith. These verses (3:17-19) are written in the same time period as the verses from chapter 1:2-4. We see how the prophet in his writing has come full cycle — from despondent despair to fantastic faith. The times haven't changed, but this disposition has. Here is a message for all of us. The real beginning of change in the people of God begins with personal commitment and individual attitude. Habakkuk noted that if the fig tree doesn't produce, nor vine bear, nor olive tree produce, he was going to trust God. Not only that, but he would rejoice.

Can God's people today accept the challenge to praise him in the midst of despair and turmoil? Can we honestly say, "Here is my life"? Try it — it will make a difference — especially in you.

Kay is pastor, First, Calhoun City.

## God's answer

By David W. Spencer  
Job 40:1-9; 42:1-6

### I. Cultural context

Our final lesson from the Book of Job deals with an age-old problem: the feelings of alienation and rejection that a sufferer feels. We have learned from reading Job that everyone was certain that Job had committed some grave sin which had cut him off from the blessed presence of God. As far as everyone was concerned, it was impossible for Job to have fellowship with God and to suffer at the same time. The suffering was interpreted by Job's contemporaries as ample evidence that he had sinned and was cut off from God.

### II. Key words

In 42:5 Job says, "Now my eyes have seen You." He certainly does not imply a physical vision of God, but he means that he has had a profound experience with God instead of just hearing some second-hand account of God's actions.

The phrase, "repent in dust and ashes," of 42:6 might lead you to think that Job was finally repenting of some immoral action as his friends had suggested. However, the Hebrew word used here is not the normal word for repent. It means "to disavow or reject" earlier words. Job is disavowing his earlier words where he condemned God's handling of human affairs.

### III. Interpretation

When Job finally got what he had been asking for (an audience with God), it was not exactly what he had thought it would be! Instead of leaping to his feet to rant and rave at God's injustice, Job felt like falling on his face in shame and sorrow. The presence of God has a way of melting our problems away. Perhaps even more than simple solutions to complex human problems, we really need a renewed sense of the presence of God!

Job found himself unable to answer God's challenges. When God invited him to assume control of the universe if he thought he could do a better job, Job realized that he had neither the wisdom nor the strength to handle the job.

In the second passage (42:1-6) Job bitterly repents for his brash indictment of God's so-called injustices. Finding himself standing before God, Job feels very differently about his situation. Whereas once he only had second-hand information about God, now he has experienced the awesome, powerful presence of the Holy One! This new look at God leaves Job with his ego tamed, his demands for vindication diminished, and a new sense of what it means to trust God.

### IV. Eternal truth

The "pop theology" of our day teaches that no Christian need ever have to suffer. We've been told that when pain or sorrow come we'll be delivered if we're "right with God." How does that apply to Job?

With Job we need to discover a "first-hand" experience with God.

Confronted by God in this personal sense, we'll realize that we can trust his handling of the universe. In the presence of God we can discover the kind of peace which will allow us to face the worst. Even in suffering we must remember that God has not abandoned us!

For the Christian, God's presence is realized today in the Spirit of the Lord. Jesus told his disciples that he would never leave them in the spiritual sense — only in the flesh.

Remembering this promise that we are never forsaken, we too can face the worst life has to offer.

Spencer is pastor, First, Long Beach.

## Hungarian Baptists elect officers

BUDAPEST—Two Vice-Presidents, a seminary director and an editor were chosen at a May 22 session of the executive committee of the Baptist Union of Hungary.

The action came following the death last February of seminary dean (director) and chief editor, Jozsef Nagy, and the resignation for health reasons of Vice-President Laszlo Revesz during the Union's annual conference earlier this year.

Imre Szakacs, pastor of the Buda Baptist Church, was chosen first vice-president. He earlier was Union secretary and had served on the European Baptist Federation's executive. Benjamin Revesz of Ujpest Baptist Church, was named second vice-president.

Emil Kiss of the Fot Baptist Church, was elected Union secretary.

Elected dean of the theological seminary in Budapest was Kalman Meszaros. Meszaros has taught church history there for the past 17 years and previously was a high school history teacher. He continues as pastor of a Budapest congregation.

## Jeremiah's personal struggle

By J. Gerald Harris  
Jeremiah 15:15-19; 20:7-11

Our lesson portrays Jeremiah in a desperate condition. He is in his prayer closet pouring out his heart to God in great lamentations. His faithful preaching had produced only opposition and hostility. Jeremiah's faithfulness to God, his burden for Judah, and the rejection of his message by the people created a spiritual agony akin to that experienced by Jesus in Gethsemane.

I. Jeremiah's complaint to God (15:15-19) — In these verses we discover the reason for Jeremiah's despondency. Notice in this section the number of times Jeremiah refers to himself in these five verses. Jeremiah seems to have been preoccupied with what he himself must endure. How unlike our Lord, who said, in Luke 23:28: "Weep not for me."

In the midst of Jeremiah's plaintive plea to God there is evidence that he sought to revive his spirit again. He recalled the joyful acceptance with which he first received the divine commission. His remembrance of the Word of God became a source of revival and joy to Jeremiah (v. 16). Indeed, each of us need to "let the Word of God dwell in (us) richly in all wisdom . . ." (Col. 3:16). Jesus said, ". . . the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63).

In spite of Jeremiah's fond memories of God's Word he remained in deep despair. He protests that his divine commission has resulted in mockery and loneliness. At last, the

perplexed prophet closes his complaint with a desperate cry of perpetual pain (v. 18).

The response of the Lord to Jeremiah is "return" (v. 19). It is a translation of the Hebrew word "shub" which is also translated "repent." God is saying, "Jeremiah, your character is shrinking. Don't let it happen. Repent, reverse the direction in which you are headed. I will renew your commission and you will be my spokesman."

II. Jeremiah's condition before God (20:7-10) — This passage of Scripture takes us into the depths of the prophet's soul. Jeremiah had continued through "many dangers, toils, and snares" to fulfill his divine mission. The emotional and mental anguish had become physical abuse (20:2).

The whole agonizing experience had Jeremiah on the horns of a dilemma. He wanted to give up the prophet's mantle, but he could not. In view of the derision and persecution he cried out, "I will not make mention of him (the Lord), nor speak any more in his name" (v. 9).

Before Jeremiah could sign his letter of resignation, he was overwhelmed with the reality of his divine commission. His spirit erupted with the words, "But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay" (20:9). At first he thought he could not speak, but he then realized he could not remain silent. At first he thought he

could not go, but then he knew that he could not stay.

The apostle Paul knew something of the compulsion of God's call. He said, "Woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel . . ." (I Cor. 9:16). He further stated his belief in the eternalness of God's call when he wrote, "The gifts and the calling of God are without repentance" (Rom. 11:29).

III. Jeremiah's confidence in God (20:11) — Jeremiah was confident that God's presence would sustain him and give him ultimate victory over his enemies. In fact, Jeremiah refers to God as a "mighty terrible one" (v. 11). That title speaks of God as a formidable conquering warrior.

Jeremiah may have well been depressed. His adversaries were encamped all around him. He was in contact with the worst wickedness of the human heart. Nevertheless, God is his shield and strength and comfort. Jeremiah discovers that the ferocity of the foe is only exceeded by the faithfulness of God.

Despite the turmoil and agony Jeremiah has experienced, his reflections upon the majesty and power of Jehovah causes his heart to burst forth into praise. Through the tears his soul reaches out to bless the Lord, "Sing unto the Lord, praise ye the Lord . . ." (v. 13). Like Jeremiah, many a saint of God has found praise to be the antidote of troubles and trials.

Harris is pastor, Colonial Heights, Jackson.

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